

REMARKS

By this Amendment claim 21 has been amended to change its dependency and to correct an inadvertent occurrence of dittography. New claims 27-41 have been added. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 6-22 and 24-41 will be pending.

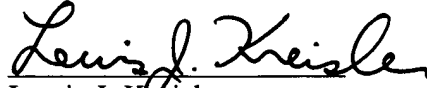
New claims 27-31 parallel claims 19-22 and 26, except that where claim 19 recites that the agent is substantially pure, claim 27 recites that the agent is present in a mammal other than a mouse. Claims 32 and 33 recite that the mammal is a human. Support for new claims 27-33 may be found, *inter alia*, in original claims 19-22 and on page 30, last paragraph. Support for new claims 34-41 may be found, *inter alia*, on pages 28-32. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid is metabolized in mice, rats, dogs and humans to 4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl)-4-hydroxybutanoic acid and 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid. The administration of 4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid to treat certain metabolic disorders is disclosed in WO 02/100341 (Wellstat Therapeutics Corp.).

A fee transmittal sheet is enclosed to cover the additional claims fee. No fee, other than the additional claims fee, is believed necessary in connection with the filing of this

Amendment. If any additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1677.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lewis J. Kreisler".

Lewis J. Kreisler

Reg. No. 38522

Attorney for Applicant(s)

930 Clopper Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Phone: (240) 631-2500 x3276
Facsimile: (240) 683-3794